Spark Gap Times
Published by The Old Old Timers Club

1409 Cooper Drive, Irving, TX 75061



FIRST CLASS MAIL

1909 / /
TROSTER, JOHN G W6ISQ
82 BELBROOK WAY
ATHERTON CA 94025

OOTC OFFICIAL BALLOT

JANUARY 1990

To keep the ballot secret, and reduce costs, we are asking that you black out your name and call on your mailing label, then remove the ballot from your copy of SGT and identify your amateur FCC call zone only - use the space designated and place your call zone only!

My FCC Call District is _____

If your FCC call district is "1" vote for one of the following candidates for the office of Director:

Duncan Kreamer, W1GAY - - - - - - ☐

Henry K Warner, W1HRQ - - - - - - ☐

Daniel A MacDonald, W1PEX - - - ☐

[redacted]your FCC call district is "4" vote for one of the following [redacted]idates for the office of Director:

Robert Bookwalter, W4NWF - - - - - ☐

William P Sides, W4AUP - - - - - - ☐

Place your ballot in an envelope, write "Ballot" on the lower LH edge of the front of the envelope. Ballots will be held, unopened until January 31, 1990. At that time the ballots will be opened in the company of two disinterested persons, the results tallied, and the results of the election will be immediately mailed to each candidate. Those witnessing the tally will attest to the accuracy of the count.

Mail your ballot to the following address:

OOTC, Inc.
1409 Cooper Dr
Irving, TX 75061

Spark-Gap Times

Published By
The Old Old Timers Club

Vol.26 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1989 No. 6.

WILLIAM GILBERD



This OOOOOOOT
Discovered the Earth Magnet!

(See page 11)

Spark-Gap Times

Vol.26 Nov/Dec 1989 No.6

The Old Old Timers Club

PRESIDENT EMERITUS:
Ray E. Meyers, W6MLZ.
PRESIDENT:
L. F. Heithecker, W5EJ.
VICE PRESIDENT:
Duncan Kreamer, W1GAY.
SECRETARY (Interim):
Wesley Randles, W4COW.
TREASURER:
Bert Ayers, W6CL.
DIRECTORS:
H. W. Wills,W1DJ.
Earl W. Korf, K2IC.
Charles Dorian, W3JPT.
R. L. Bookwalter, W4NWF.
H. S. Gartsman, W6ATC.
Leon Stanley, W7DKB.
J. E. Hoffer, W8CWY.
G. L. Eldred, W9SG.
R. Anderson, KØNL.
DIRECTORS-at-LARGE:
G. Jacoby, DL3ME, Europe.
G. A. Penna, PY1AFA, S.A.
Austine Henry, VK3YL, Austr.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At long last, with some pain, a slate of candidates has been nominated and OOTC is holding its first election of Directors in several years. Those elected are listed on Page 5. OOTC Directors are elected on an area-representation basis. That is, each of the 10 FCC districts elects a Director. The Directors then elect the OOTC President and Vice President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer. The President, with approval of the Board, may appoint an assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Awards Chairman and so on, as required.

OOTC Board members do not ordinarily travel to a common meeting place. All OOTC business can be handled by mail, and that is the regular practice. Meetings may be called but Directors are not required to travel to attend such gatherings.

The first duty of the elected Board will be to elect a President who will coordinate activities of the Board, establish a system to make communication easy. Mailing labels and stationery for all directors should be provided to make the job of governing OOTC as convenient as possible.

To get the work underway, this office will assist the Board in its work of getting into action, making a complete report on the condition of the OOTC and offering suggestions, where asked, which the Board use as a basis for its considerations. When the elected Board members have been in communication and have elected their new President, they can then begin to work, or establish committees to handle OOTC matters which need attention.

Be sure and find the ballot (inside back fly-leaf) to be used by our 1st and 4th district members to elect their director. Remember, you can only vote for a Director who is nominated from your call district. Mark your ballot and return it to this office. Ballots will be tallied and those elected will be notified of your choice.

To all who have given help and encouragement to OOTC through the years we can only say "Thank You". We have a wonderful group of men and women who are dedicated old-timers, many of them pioneers from the days of Spark. May God bless you all!

OOTC NOMINATIONS FOR THE OFFICES OF DIRECTOR

The following OOTC Members have been nominated for the Office of Director. In cases where only one nominee was named, they are declared to be elected (marked with *). In the 1st and 4th FCC districts, more than one nominee was named. A ballot has been prepared and is a part of the last (fly-leaf) page of this edition of the Jounral.

Call Area	Name	Call	Member No.
1	Duncan Kreamer	W1GAY	1782
	Henry K Warner	W1HRQ	2367
	Daniel A MacDonald	W1PEX	2610
2	Gus Gironda*	W2JE	977
3	Robert J Gleason*	W3KW	1530
4	Robert Bookwalter	W4NWF	1750
	William P Sides	W4AUP	1471
5	Leland Smith*	W5KL	1214
6	Harry Gartsman*	W6ATC	1559
7	A Lee Tippett*	W7LVB	2288
8	John E Hoffer*	W8CWY	1399
9	Karl Kopetzky*	K9AQJ	2604
0	Leo I Meyerson*	W0GFQ	707

Our congratulations to those elected. Balloting for Director positions for Zones 1 and 4 will be reported in the next issue of SGT. Remember, only OOTC members whose calls are issued in Zone 1 and Zone 4 are eligible to vote. If you are a "Zone 1" station vote only for a Zone 1 candidate, or if a "Zone 4" station vote only for a Zone 4 camdidiate. Mark and return your ballot as soon as possible.

ELECTION COMMENTS

Candidates for the Office of Director in OOTC were received for all FCC call districts. With exception of the 1st and 4th districts only one candidate was nominated. We have therefore judged that all areas nominating only one candidate have thereby elected their Director. This office has not checked with individual candidates to determine whether or not they consented to serve, if elected. This was supposed to be a condition for submission of a name as a candidate.

It has been a number of years since OOTC held elections. Therefore it has been deemed desirable to elect all ten directors at one time. Normally terms are for two years. In this single instance it is believed that five should be elected for two years and five for three years. After this intial stage, elections will revert to the regular 2-year terms as specified in Article V, Section 2 of the Constitution. Directors for Districts 2,4,6,8,0 will serve years 1990, 1991. Directors for Districts 1,3,5,7,9 will serve years 1990, 1991, 1992.

DIRECTORS UNOPPOSED IN THEIR DISTRICTS

DECLARED ELECTED

District 2 - Gus Gironda, W2JE

District 3 - Robert J. Gleason, W3KW

District 5 - Leland Smith, W5KL

District 6 - Harry Gartsman, W6ATC

District 7 - A. Lee Tippett, W7LVB

District 8 - John E. Hoffer, W8CWY

District 9 - Karl Kopetzky6, K9AQJ

District 0 - Leo I. Meyerson, W0GFQ

Our thanks and congratulations go to these fine OOTC Members who have been elected by membership to serve for the years

CANDIDATES NOMINATED FOR DISTRICTS 1 & 4

BRIEF SKETCH OF CANDIDATES QUALIFICATIONS

First District Candidates

Duncan Kreamer, W1GAY - First wireless communication 1936 with amateur call W2JMG. Duncan is an Attorney, active in OOTC for many years.....lives on Martha's Vineyard, MA.

Henry K Warner, W1HRQ - First wireless communication, 1932 with amateur call W2ENZ. A veteram of the Merchant Marine service and with the Navy, 1942-1946. In NBC TV 1946-1955. Lives at Kennebunkport, Maine.

Daniel A MacDonald, W1PEX - First wireless communication, 1936, first amateur license 1941 as W6UIT. Radioman, USS Northampton, 1937-1941, Navy, 1942-1946. Active in many communications fields, serving as consultant to USAF. Lives at Nashua, New Hampshire.

Fourth District Candidates

Robert Bookwalter, W4NWF - First wireless communication 1930 with amateur call W9BYQ. Worked as Senior Engineer for Armco Steel. Bob has been extremely active in OOTC work for a number of years, has the time and is willing to serve.

William P. Sides, W4AUP - First wireless communication 1922, first amateur license W4AUP, 1930. Served with the Alabama Power Company for 41 years. Active in many amateur societies, Bill is interested in restoration of early equipment. He is retired and willing to serve.

It is most important to remember - you vote for these candidates only if your call sign contains either the numeral "1" or the numeral "4". If you have a 1st district call, vote only for candidates for Director for the 1st district. Similarly, if you have a 4th district call, vote only for a single 4th district candidate.

OOTC'S $14 CLUB

Chester D. Voorhees, W8BIF(1940)
Fred W. Fischer, W9DW(2502)
Louis T. Barnes, WA6TFR(1767)
Harry Gardner, KA3KUA(2810)
Sergeant R. Horn, W5IB(1968)
Vernon V. Holmes, W0LR(1125)
J. Harvey Chaser, W4TG(1416)
Borge Otzen, OZ8T(1633)

OOTC'S $21 CLUB

Charles R. Traylor, W5HQA(2177)
James P. Hall, K6HSN(2746)

OOTC'S $28 CLUB

William P. Sides, W4AUP(1471)
Robert Richardson, W6WHM(2715)

NEW MEMBERS IN OOTC

Joseph G. Chaet, W1RGH (2833)
Thomas G. Perry, KC4LWY (2835)
L. D. McQuaid Sr, KA5VRG (2837)
Robert L Bristow, W0LNC (2839)
Herbert Hybnes, N4RRS (2841)
John R. Barber, W1PRT (2843)
Alex Hellman, W2OEQ (2834)
Warren R. Larson, K0TIN (2836)
Creed Chorpening, W4TZ (2838)
Daniel T. Baird, W5SPZ (2840)
Joseph Saugier, K6CD (2842)
Bingham G. Day, W1CTF (2844)

OOTC MEMBERS REPORTED AS SILENT KEYS

Robert M. Akin, K2LCU (438)
Charles W. Okie, W2SCP (536)
Charles L. Buckter, W6BOW (1806)
Herbert H. Schmahl, W2AHZ (919)
Maynard R. Briggs, W3HWZ (2390)
John B. Henry, W7GK (787)
John Butterfield, W2CSK (2318)

Old Old-Timers Club notes with regret and sorrow the passing of its members who have become Silent Keys and expresses its sincere condolences to their families and friends.

OTC BIRTHDAYS

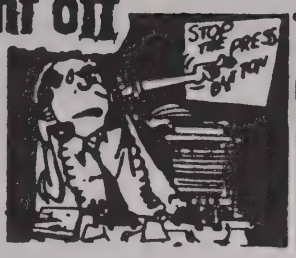
Month of February

1 - DL2NAJ, W9GJ
2 - W5KL
3 - W2ALS
4 - W1SK
5 - KC4XA, K6VU, KL7DG, W8QHM
6 - KA2EIO, WB6ATA, G3BRA N6FIS
8 - W7HTF
9 - W8UL
10 - K4NI, W2AHZ, W1KGC
11 - K4RF, W1GJF, W0SRN
12 - K6BV
13 - W6NKE
14 - W5UY, W6RG, W2ANB, K1SRE
15 - W7JY, W1HRO
16 - W2GP, W8BF, W1EMN
17 - W5JT
18 - W9NN, W5VJW
19 - K6HSN
20 - W8HM, W1GBQ, DL1ZQ, WA2ELE
21 - KA8FXA, K4EME
22 - W4FOM, K4SV, K4RE
23 - W7DVK
24 - OA4AV
25 - W6QVK, DL1BT
26 - W1WK, W2FJH
27 - W4CX, W1IAO, W6QIL, W5EEG

Month of March

1 - W8SDO, W6TZV
3 - W7DH
5 - KA6NPV
6 - W6OD, W6MK
7 - W0GFQ, W6KJP, DJ5ND DL8AJ
8 - W4WNY
9 - W3HZT, DL1YK, W6QHL
10 - W5UCW, W1JY, W2LDE
11 - DL9YP
12 - W8AQ, C6ANU, K4NTS
13 - W6CL, W7BQG
14 - W2GA, K4JMH, DK8ZZ
15 - W6MCV
16 - DL2MDB
17 - K4QM, W8GJX, W7GVC
18 - LA1Q
19 - W9OD, W5AWJ, N6JSK
20 - VE2NB, W1GVV
21 - HA0HN, NZ8X
22 - W6CBX
23 - K4IV, K4JI, WW5U, W7LLS KB5FBE, K4BX
25 - W1ABE, W5HQA, N5BAK
27 - W7PP
28 - DL7AA, DL1NP
29 - ZS6AD, W6LDO
30 - KH6CB, W5ALS, JP1BJR, K6UYK
31 - W5FEB

right off the editor's desk



The opinions & suggestions expressed in this article, are not necessarily those of the OOTC, its Officers or Directors.

IT HAS been correctly said: a prophecy is not believed on the home turf. For years we have deplored the on-going and ever increasing misuse of the ham bands. These included the over-use of fone-patches where obviously a telephone should have been used. And business done via the fone-patch route for foreign, 3rd parties. Or the continued use of ham bands for useless and at times double frequency use for so-called "code practise" which wasn't code practise at all, but an ego trip for the perpetrator, etc., etc., ad infinitum, ad nauseam!

Add the interminable diatribes concerning religion and atheism which usually consisted of on-and-on reading of propaganda over 80, 20 and sometimes 15 meters. How about useless bulletins, computer-operated "community boards," and much of entirely useless but frequency-occupying drivel, most if not all of absolutely no compliance with FCC Part 97, Sect. 97.3, which says the amateur service is... "for the purpose of self-training, intercommunications and technical investigations carried out by amateurs..."

When confronted, some of the hams "got bent all out of shape." "It's our Right; they're 'intercommunications'," one told us. "Everybody does it," another said. "What are you," one inquired, "A 'kilocycle cop'?"

All we said that was that if these misuses continued, it was our opinion that eventually the FCC would crack down. And that the end results might be a severe curtailment of many of the ham "privileges" we now enjoy.

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Conducted by:
WILLIAM R. MILLER, K2GCE,
217 Porterfield Place,
Freeport, NY 11520.

THRU AN OVERSIGHT, I let slip thru that Borg, OZ8T, was an SK even after receiving a letter from him to the contrary. I am glad to write that although he is not up to snuff, his is fairly active on the bands and, as Mark Twain put it, "Borg's demise was greatly exaggerated!" My sincere apologies for the oversightf, also for not answering his letter.

It was recently learned that Pete, W2SS, returned from a much needed vacation in and around Arizona. I certainly hope that he and his XYL enjoyed their break away from the Big Apple...

Oka Stewart, W6GAR's birthday was left out of the last January birthday list in SGT. For all who care, be sure to send greeting on his natal day, Jan. 6th.

Please note that our Editor has returned to Chicago. He has tried to live in California three separate times; and each time he has failed and has returned to the Windy City. This time, Karl says it is for good.

One thing that made it all worth while, was that after trying to get work in California for a whole year sending out over 175 resumes all for nothing, a single phone call in Chicago got him a good paying job. Makes true that well known adage: "You can always get a job in Chicago!"

Many thanks and much appreciation from the entire OOTC is due Hank Warner, W1HRQ, for the dedication and operating ability displayed as NCS of the OOTC, CW Friday Net. Incidentally, that Net meets every Friday at 1700Z on 14,115kHz. Why not give it a try. I'm sure you'll enjoy it!

Abe, VE3VTC, writes that on becoming an OOTC mem ber, he renewed friendship with an old schoolmate from his high school days. Good to have you as a member, Abe, and to learn that you were able to get together with your old high school chum, Bert, W6CL, after all these years.

It is with a great deal of regret that I learn our our Uncle Gus, W2JE, is not feeling well. A bad ticker and other problems have slowed Gus down. Hopefully by the time this sees the light of day, Gus will be on the mend. A hot "get well" card from the members would be appreciated by Gus, I'm sure!

Every once in a while I get nostalgic. So with your permission, I should like to take a trip down memory lane. Fifty years ago the average age of most Hams was 29.5 years. The average power of the Xmitrs was 175W. Nearly everyone used a dipole ant. CW was king with 80 and 40 meters -- totally CW in those days -- being very active. Two-thirds of the receivers were manufactured, and 90% of the Xmitrs were home-made. Today ???

Fifty years ago in the July 1939 issue of QST, a letter was written wondering if there were enough women in ham radio who would be interested in forming a group similar to the YLRL of today. The let-

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ON OUR COVER. This month's cover features William Gilberd or Gilbert as he is familiarly known. He lived some 2,000 years after Thales of Miletus who graced our previous issue's cover. Gilberd discovered that the earth was a magnet and performed many experiments in electricity and magnetism. He is best known for his famous treatise, "Of the Magnet and Magnetic Bodies and that Great Magnet the Earth." He was also among the first to use the term "electric" after the Greek word "Elektron." Gilberd was born in 1544 and died in 1603. Certainly he belongs among the great men of wireless and radio !

GETTING MORE OUTA YOUR RIG

Being a short, reasonably non-technical article on how to improve your rig's performance.

MOST HAMS, especially those of us who are the Senior Citizens of Hamdom, which is to say that we have been hamming for over 40 or more years, are none too anxious to get too involved with high falootin technicalities where our rigs, amplifiers or antennas are concerned.

That is not to say, that among us there aren't some "perfectionists" whose antennas are like Maxwell Coffee, "Good to the Last Drop" of power available from the Xmitr. But there are some of us, and I really think that there may be more than most of us would care to admit, who put up a long wire antenna or a beam, tune it with an antenna tuner and an SWR bridge, and let it go at that. It is to those hams that I address this article.

In the first place, most of the commercial antenna tuners are of the "full T-Section" type, familiarly called, "Transmatches." Now, I have nothing against the Transmatch, other than that I have never been able to get one to work properly for me. And I don't want to get into a big rukus arguing with one or more OOTC members whose electronic background makes mine look like a zero, either. I simply like the Collins pi tuner; and have been able to get it to tune almost everything except, perhaps, a wet noodle! And I haven't tried that yet, come to think of it.

The average T-Section tuner is shown in Figure 1. It can be simply converted into the Collins pi network, shown in Figure 2, by making the changes indicated in Figure 3. Takes a bit of wire and a good soldering iron. Average time for the change is

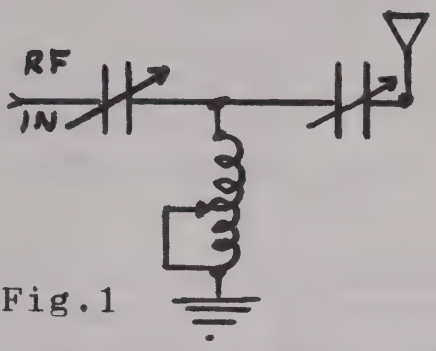


Fig.1

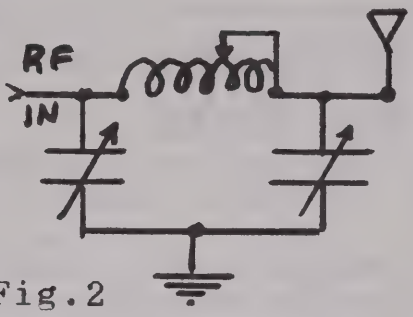


Fig.2

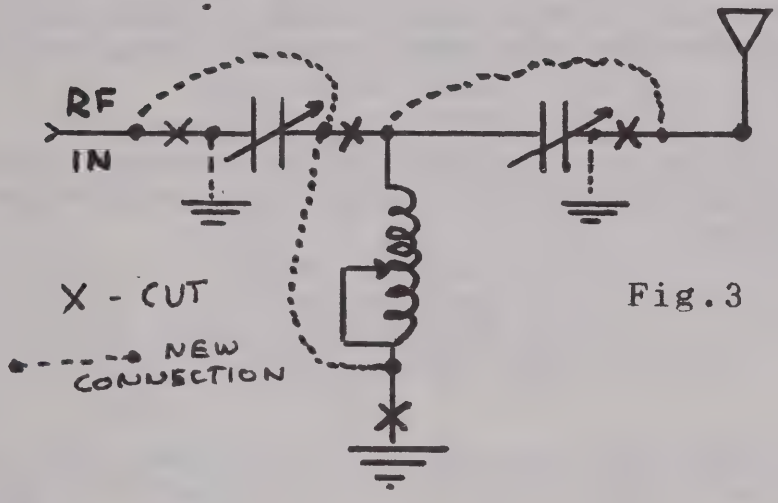


Fig.3

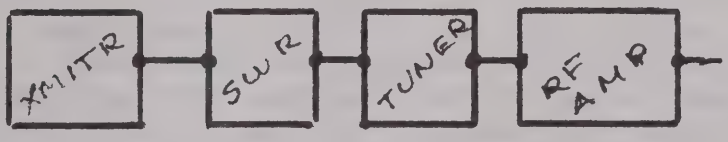


Fig.4

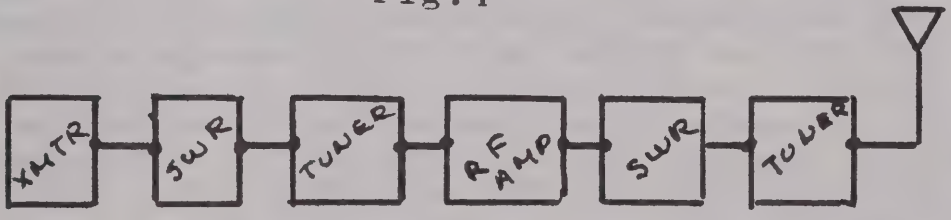


Fig.5

less than what it takes to change the average tire these days.

Anyhow, to make it short and sweet, I'm going to stick with the Collins. But in the suggestions that follow, you may use whatever type of tuner you like, so long as it makes an output load look something

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Ye Olde Ham Flea Market

Conducted by:
WILLIAM R. MILLER, K2GCE,
217 Porterfield Place,
Freeport, NY 11520.

HIS is YOUR column, fellers! We have a very few members' stuff in this issue. If you really don't care about having this column in SGT, and don't send in some data, we'll quietly "Deep Six" it before the next SGT issue comes out.

WANTED. An old, vintage UV217 half-wave rectifier at a reasonable price. Needed for my 50-unit tube collection.

Leo Gibbs, W8BHT,
701 Brookfield Rd.,
Kettering, Ohio 45429
Tel.: 513-299-3965.

FOR SALE: Mint condx AR28 TTY Printer with power supply and large supply of roll paper. Has extra Wx letter/graph box for wx reports. $100. By pick-up only; but might ship by special arrangement, if necessary. EPSON MX80 Printer, parallel feed with graphics; excel. condx. $100. TenTec QRP 20/40M CW only Xceiver, just overhauled by TenTec w/ earfones, ant. tuner and Nicad 12V bat.; the lot $100. Sampon speech compressor, goes between Mic and Xcvr audio input. Runs on 115VAC or 12VDC for portable use. RS Expansion Interface for RS Model 1 computer, top condx. A rarety. $200. Manuals for all except the QRP rig which is available from TenTec. Some other stuff too, cleaning.out due to moving. Send SASE for complete list.

Karl A. Kopetzky, K9AQJ,
3619 N. Lamon Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60641-3552

WANTED. A copy of the 1939 Edition of the RCA Receiving Tube Manual, and also the 1939 Edition of the RCA Transmitting Tube Manual (Amateur).

William R. Miller, K2GCE,
217 Porterfield Place,
Freeport, N.Y. 11520-3116.

That went over like a lead balloon! "Can't ever happen," we were assured.

Well, it's come to pass! According to Westlink Report, FCC Special Services Division Chief Robt. H. McNamara, is raising questions about the above. McNamara has requested suggestions "in case new policies or regulations are required." We believe that he wouldn't be asking, if the "new policies and regulations" were not already in the offing.

We're backed in that opinion by the Westlink Report which says, "This could be just the beginning of a major, and very undesirable, change to Part 97." So don't be surprised if the fone-patch goes the way of the bustle; 3rd party traffic will be exactly proscribed with heavy penalties for non-compliance; beacons and code practise stations will be severely curtailed and double frequency code stations effectively quieted.

And that's only for openers. It could get lots worse!

THAT OUR educational system has gone awry is very apparent. We are in receipt of an "explanatory note" from one of the biggest S & Ls in California. The cashier wrote us, explaining why we were inadvertently charged as follows. "Your account was improperly charged DO to teller error." Unsettling, isn't it!

WE SEE in Westlink Report No.559 (9/29/89), p. 5, that the "Westlink Radio Network Defense Fund is still more than $13,000 shy of the cash it needs to pay the legal bills accrued in its defense of YOUR RIGHTS." (Emphsis supplied).

In another part of the same article it says, "...But this time, the legal costs in defending Bill (Bill Pasternak, former editor of the Report) against a CHARGE OF SLANDER, have overcome his ability to pay."

Legitimate questions. How does Bill's alleged

slander, for which he is being sued and apparently has run out of defense funds, equate with a "defense of your rights.?" And why is the Fund called the "Westlink Report Fund?" Is the Fund for the benefit of the WR publisher or of Bill?

According to our dictionary, slander is "the utterance of defamatory statements injurious to the reputation or well being of a person," or " to utter damaging reports about (a person, company, group, etc.")

Difficult to understand how an alleged slander could have anything to do with a ham's "Rights." What "Rights?" Maybe if the Publisher of the Westlink Report would print an explanation and answer the above questions, the donations to the Fund might increase.

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DATA: Baseball, said to have been invented by the American Abner Doubleday in 1839, was written about, disparagingly, in Kent, England in 1700. It is referred to by name, baseball, in a novel written by Jane Austin in 1789!

---

ter was written by W7FWB. That was fifty years ago, and today we have our answer because the YLRL does exist, and I might say, very active. But who was W7FWB. The call no longer exists, it least not in my '85 Call Book. For those who might not recognize the call, it belonged to our own Ethel Smith, now K4LMB. As the cigarette ad says," You've ccme a long way, baby!" Congratulations on your foresight, Ethel !

With that, my day of nostalgia are over for now, and so is my column. But the thought comes to me that our Editor has been a Ham since 1912. Bet he could tell SOME stories! Gotta ask him, some time.

Until the next time, I hope that you-all have pleasant holidays, both of them: Christmas and New Years!

73.

Bill, K2GCE

----- 30 -----

like a 50-ohm, purely resistive load, or very close to that.

Most of the fact that we don't get what we expect from our antennas, is that we tune them at the station or Xmiter amplifier end of the transmission line, and not at the antenna end of the transmssion line, where the SWR might be different.

Having lost that round, how can we improve our Xmitr-to-antenna power transfer? Because if the Xmitr or the final RF amplifier "needs" a 50-ohm impedance looking like pure resistance for best energy transfer, it is essential that the antenna look like that deal. That's why we use antenna tuners, or at least why some of us do.

However, if you're one of them guys that's running barefoot, there is precious little that you can do. You can't tune a tuner you don't have. But you still oould do something...

Like you could "Deep Six" that pre-1776 antenna coax cable, which might help. As the cable is exposed to the elements, it deteriorates and as it does, so does the transfer of power thru it! So replace it! If you don't believe me, ask any coax manufacturer. He'll agree with me if for no other reason than to do so, sells more coax! Hi.!

If you are using an RF amplifier, and the coax is reasonably new, there is one other thing you can do to improve the transfer of power from your amplifier to the antenna. That's this, assuming that you use an antenna tuner.

You're going to be surprised when you insert an SWR bridge between the output of your Xmitr and the

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input of your RF amplifier. I know I was. I only needed 100W to drive the amplifier to full power, and that was available from my Xmiter. However, the SWR that I read indicated that only 65% of the power was being transferred, or 65W and not the 100W I had hoped for.

"I'll fix that," I said to myself. So I inserted my spare, home-spun pi tuner between the 1kW RF amp input and the SWR bridge at the output of my Xmitr. See Figure 4. Then I jiggled this and juggled that control on the Xmitr and the pi tuner until I had brought the SWR down to a reasonable 1.5:1. That meant I was only losing about 8/10th of 1%. Not bad! Theoretically, I was getting 80W from the Xmitr which should drive the amp to about 25% more power than before.

Then I noticed that the RF amp was "unhappy." It was not running according to Hoyle. Somewhere, I had derated something and the results were worse than I had had them before I put the darn SWR into the circuit. What to do???

Finally figured it out. I already had one antenna pi tuner inserted between the SWR bridge and the output of the RF amplifier to the antenna coax line. And I had just inserted another between the Xmitr and the SWR to the RF amp. So now I had 2 tuners in the Xmitr-Antenna coax system. See Figure 5.

Then I juggled the RF amp and antenna tuner controls until I got a minimum SWR on BOTH bridges. Took some doing, but I ended up with about 1:1 on the SWR between the Xmitr and the amp, and 2.5:1 on the SWR at the output of the RF amp.

Trick is to tune the Xmitr tuner first for the best SWR you can get, hopefully 1:1. Leave it alone and then tune the amp/antenna tuner for the best

SWR you can get there, too. End up with tweeking all rig controls invclved: Xmitr, both tuners, and RF amplifier.

Then I got another brain-storm. I had an RF output meter made by the Drake people in Miami, Ohio. I connected that in series with the antenna, lead-in, coaxial line.

Now I started all over again, juggling both tuner controls for the best SWRs I cculd manage. The one nearest to the Xmitr finally read 1:1.

Then I adjusted the other (amp/antenna) tuner for the maximum reading on the Drake RF meter, at the same time seeing to it that the output SWR reading ended up in the 2.5:1 neighborhood. I finished up with a respectable 800W, key-down, input to the antenna line, which wasn't bad considering that the poop-sheet had promised a 1kW output.

So there, fellows, is the dope. Get yourself two antenna tuners, two SWRs and one RF meter and really go to town!!! You may go crazy adjusting each time you change bands. But in the end you'll get a lot more from your rig without creating havoc on the bands. For well-adjusted rigs usually sound just fine... and do well, too.

And when you now, finally, QSO that super-distant DX station, or a new "land," which you have been trying to do, for, oh, so long ---

HOW SWEET IT IS !!!!

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QUOTABLE QUOTE. "The greates danger to liberty lurks in insidious encroachment by men and women of zeal -- well-meaning but without understanding." Louis Brandeis, Supreme Court Justice.

QUOTABLE QUOTE. "Being a President is like riding a tiger. A man has to keep on riding or be swallowed." Harry S. Truman.

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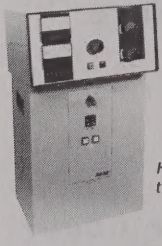
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Fill in all spaces where possible, if additional information is required use the back of this page. Please remember, we need a black and white photo about 2x4 inches will do. Also please limit your background material to 100 words or less.

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If married, indicate name of spouse_____Call (if any)_____

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